



CITY OF HOUSTON

Office of the Mayor

Sylvester Turner

Mayor

P.O. Box 1562
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Telephone – Dial 311
www.houstontx.gov

November 26, 2018

Chairman Neil Chatterjee
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20426

RE: Rio Grande LNG and Rio Bravo Pipeline
Docket Nos. CP16-454-000 and CP16-455-000

Dear Chairman Chatterjee:

I am writing to express my strong support for Houston-based NextDecade Corporation and its plans to develop and operate the Rio Grande LNG project in the Port of Brownsville, a deepwater port in South Texas. I encourage the Commission to issue its final approval of Rio Grande LNG as soon as possible.

As you know, the U.S. has a unique opportunity to become a major supplier of abundant, clean-burning, U.S.-produced natural gas to markets around the world. We are proud of our companies and professionals in Houston who are working diligently to deliver the long-term economic and environmental benefits that come with the continued advancement of this promising industry.

Members of my staff and I have visited with NextDecade's team several times in recent months, both in Houston and on the sidelines of the Gastech conference in Barcelona (as you know, we are honored to be hosting Gastech in Houston in September 2019). We have observed that NextDecade is committed to safety and integrity as a good neighbor – both here in Houston and in the Rio Grande and surrounding communities. I am confident that the team's steadfast commitment to these and other core values will bring a safe, reliable facility to fruition, creating thousands of jobs and providing the world with efficient, cleaner energy.

Improving the global environment for future generations is a key policy initiative of mine. I am a co-chair of Climate Mayors, a group of more than 300 mayors of cities from coast to coast working together to strengthen local efforts for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to support efforts for binding federal and global policymaking. I am also a member of the C40 Alliance of Cities, the Carbon Disclosure Project, and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy. In September 2018, I was proud to announce Houston's Climate Action Plan at the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco, highlighting Houston's tremendous recovery and resiliency progress in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

NextDecade's Rio Grande LNG project will enable developed and emerging markets around the world to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by replacing carbon-intensive fuels with natural gas and other forms of cleaner energy. The project will also provide energy producers across the State of Texas an important link to global markets and an opportunity to reduce wasteful flaring of valuable energy resources into the atmosphere.

Rio Grande LNG and other planned LNG export projects will facilitate the export of abundant, clean-burning natural gas and will deliver long-term economic and environmental benefits. We appreciate your continued commitment to the review of U.S. LNG projects, and respectfully request the Commission's final approval of Rio Grande LNG as soon as possible.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvester Turner', written over a light gray rectangular background.

Sylvester Turner, Mayor
City of Houston